

HOW FATAL SHOT WAS FIRED

Witnesses Detail the Ayres Tragedy.

EMPTY SHELLS IN HIS ROOM

A Capitol Policeman Tells of Discovery.

MISS MARY MINAS ON THE STAND

Star Witness for the Prosecution Rehearses Her Story of Pistol Reports and Cries for Help. Other Evidence Offered.

"I was the first man to enter the room when the door was broken in. I found six empty cartridges in the sloop jar. I am sure that they were there before the revolver was opened."

"I saw the revolver before any person touched it. It was lying on the trunk with the muzzle pointed toward the window and the handle toward the bed."

"There was plenty of room behind the door for a large man to secrete himself when the door was opened."

Policeman Drew's Evidence.

The above statement constituted part of the testimony of J. Frank Drew, a Capitol policeman, who was on the witness stand, in Criminal Court, No. 1, this morning, when the trial of Mrs. Bonine for the murder of James Seymour Ayres was resumed. District Attorney Gould, during a strict cross-examination, endeavored to draw from the witness a statement that he saw the empty cartridges during a later visit to the room, but Mr. Drew stuck to his original testimony. This is the first intimation either side has given as to the presence of empty shells in the room, and the discovery made a profound impression.

The positive statement of the witness that the revolver was found with the handle toward the bed and the muzzle toward the window is somewhat of a revelation, as it has been contended by the prosecution that the revolver was found lying on the trunk with the handle toward the window, as it had been placed by the accused woman after shooting Ayres from the fire-escape.

Could Have Hidden Behind Door. Mr. Drew further insisted that a man could easily have hidden himself behind the door until another person had entered the room. He claimed that the room was large enough to permit a struggle to have taken place without disturbing the articles of furniture.

Two other important witnesses were on the stand this morning. One of these was Thomas M. Baker, who saw the woman descend the fire-escape after the shots had been fired, and who identified her as resembling Mrs. Bonine.

Snapped Pistol in Court.

The witness, armed with the pistol with which Ayres was murdered, flourished the weapon from the stand and discharged it to illustrate the space of time lapsing between the shots. His testimony was damaging to the defense and was given directly and without reservation.

Miss Katherine A. Lawless, the woman, who, though sleeping a few feet away from the scene of the tragedy, heard no sound during the night, was also examined, but retained her former reticence. She shed absolutely no light on the mystery that surrounds the tragedy. She testified that she knew nothing about the shooting and had heard nothing. She was excused.

Miss Mary E. Minas, the principal witness for the prosecution, was also called and rehearsed her testimony of having heard pistol shots, cries for help, and screams. She declared that the groans and cries were those of a man.

The Accused Emotionless. The court room was crowded when Mrs. Bonine entered shortly before 10 o'clock. Every seat was occupied and the arrangements perfected by Deputy Marshal Robinson were such as to give quiet and comfort. Mrs. Bonine looked calm and refreshed and exhibited no emotion during the day. On the other hand, she repeatedly prompted her attorneys at critical points. Her husband and sister were early arrivals and greeted her warmly.

The jury was late in arriving, evidently having been out for a walk just after breakfast. Justice Anderson commented upon the tardiness of the jurors.

The spectators today were nearly all women, at least 150 of the fair sex having crowded into the benches and chairs.

Described Position of Body.

J. Frank Drew, a Capitol policeman, who occupied a room across the hall from that assigned to Ayres, resumed the witness stand shortly after 10 o'clock and was examined by Attorney Gould. The witness described the appearance of the room as it was a few moments after the body of Ayres was discovered. He told of the position of the corpse, of the blood stains on the carpet and the finger marks on the window.

Prisoner in Ayres' Room. "Did you ever see Mrs. Bonine come out of Ayres' room?" the witness was asked by Mr. Gould.

"I have," was the reply.

"How often?"

"On a number of occasions."

"What time of night did you ever see her leave that room?"

"As late as between 9 and 10 o'clock."

"Was the door open at the time, or did she open the door?"



A character study, by Artist Bengough, showing a nearly full-face view of the woman on trial for murder. Heretofore only a profile picture has been published. The likeness is a striking one and gives even a better idea of the accused than that published in The Evening Times on last Thursday.

"The door was closed, and she opened it, closing it after her."

"How long was this before the tragedy occurred?"

"I could not say."

The Witness Cross-Examined.

Mr. Gould then turned the witness over to Attorney Douglass, who questioned him in detail as to the position of the bed in the room and the appearance and location of the other articles of furniture.

"Could a man have stood behind the door," was asked, "and permitted another person to enter the room without the latter being aware of his presence?"

"He could."

"You are sure that this could be done?"

"It could be done very easily."

Empty Shells in Sloop Jar.

"What was in the sloop jar when you first entered the room?" Mr. Douglass asked.

"There was a little water and a half dozen empty cartridge shells."

"You are sure that there were cartridge shells in the jar?"

"I am certain they were there," the witness replied.

Mr. Drew stated positively that he was one of the first to see the revolver lying on the trunk near the window.

"What was the position of the revolver when you first saw it?" was asked.

"It was lying on the trunk with the handle turned toward the bed. The muzzle pointed toward the window."

"You could not have made a mistake in the position of the revolver?"

"I could not."

"Could a struggle have taken place in the room without disturbing the articles of furniture?"

"I think so, but it would be a close struggle."

Shooting Near the Window.

The witness said that as far as he could make out there had been no shooting in the end of the room near the door.

When questioned by Attorney Douglass as to his having seen Mrs. Bonine come out of Ayres' room, Mr. Drew stated that she had come out of Ayres' room just the same as other rooms. "She was always around dressing," he began.

"I object to the reply," said District Attorney Gould.

The objection was sustained.

No Change in Manner.

"What was Mrs. Bonine's manner when you saw her come out of Ayres' room?" was asked by Mr. Douglass.

"The same as at any other time. She spoke to me pleasantly, as she always did."

"Was Ayres in the room when she came out?"

"I do not know. I never heard him in the room. I never heard any conversation in the room."

"Was her manner when coming out of the other rooms different from that which she exhibited in Ayres' room?"

"No, it was the same."

(Continued on second page.)

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CUBA ASKS FOR REDUCED TARIFF

A PETITION FROM THE ISLAND.

Delegation Calls on the President and Urges Changes as to Tobacco, Sugar, and Alcoholic Spirits.

Direct appeal to the President to advise reduction in the United States tariff on Cuban products, especially upon sugar and tobacco, was made today by a delegation of Cubans, representing the leading business industries of the island.

They endorsed by their presence a petition asking for tariff reduction, which was forwarded to the President some time ago through Gen. Leonard Wood.

This petition, after stating in a general way, the critical economic conditions in the island, asks for reduction of the tariff in five specific instances.

Molasses and Tobacco Involved.

The first is that molasses and raw sugars, up to No. 16 of the Dutch standard, be admitted free of all duties. Secondly, it is asked that a duty on Cuban leaf tobacco of \$1 per pound in wrappers and 20 cents per pound in unstemmed fillers, be established. It is also asked that \$2.50 per pound, instead of 25 cents per pound, be the duty imposed on Cuban cigars, this being the third point in the petition, while a 40 per cent duty is the maximum asked to be placed on alcoholic spirits and rum, and on preserves and sweetmeats manufactured in Cuba.

The fifth point is that no internal revenue tax be imposed which would annul such concessions.

Members of the Delegation.

The delegation consisted of Francisco Gamba, President of the General Society of Merchants and Business Men of the island of Cuba, and Miguel Mendoza, Simon Dumois, Louis Francke, Gustav Beck, Dionisio Velasco, Juan Pedro, and Alfonso Pesant.

The delegation was accompanied by State Senator Frank D. Pavey, the American counsel of the General Society; Octavio Davis, the secretary to the delegation, and L. V. de Atad, a member of the former Cuban delegation on economic affairs which visited Washington last winter.

An Industrial Campaign.

The appointment of the members of the delegation was preceded by an economic campaign which surpassed any in the history of the island. The officers of the General Society of Merchants and Business Men took the lead in preparing the petition. In order that it might voice

the sentiments of all business interests, copies of the petition were sent to all the chambers of commerce and all boards of trade on the island, as well as to all trades unions and other commercial bodies. All of these organizations held special meetings on October 2 last and all endorsed the petition. The political parties held meetings on the same day and did likewise.

President Roosevelt expressed great pleasure at meeting the delegation, but did not make any statement regarding the petition, further than to say that it would be given fullest consideration.

FOUND DEAD IN HIS BED.

Messenger to Secretary of State Expires Suddenly.

William Ginn, messenger to the Secretary of State, and one of the oldest employees in the State Department, was found dead in his bed last night. The cause was acute indigestion, bringing on heart disease.

Ginn had been messenger to the Secretary of State since 1871, when Hamilton Fish appointed him. He has officiated as the great seal of the United States to all important treaties and conventions that have been negotiated during the last thirty years.

His last act of this character was in the case of the new Hay-Pauncefote Treaty. His death is deeply regretted by all the officials of the department, who always implicitly trusted him.

AMBITION OF FOURNIER.

To Try for New Automobile Record at Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 25.—Henri Fournier, the French chauffeur, is here to attempt to lower his mile record of 1:07 2-5 for a mile on an oval track. The event was postponed from Saturday until today on account of rain.

M. Fournier expects to become an American citizen in a very short time. He has received offers from several large automobile manufacturing firms in New York to associate himself with them in the manufacture of power vehicles. As yet he has made no definite arrangements for going into business, but there is no question that he will settle upon one of the offers in a very short time.

"I shall go to Paris next month to see the annual automobile exhibit there," said Fournier, speaking of his settling in New York to take up the work of managing one of the factories that have made me offers.

E. V. Wilber, who accompanied M. Fournier here from New York, has made the gentleman an offer to go into business with him. He is said to be willing to organize a company to be capitalized at \$3,000,000 for manufacture of automobiles, and place Fournier at the head of it.

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THE MESSAGE IN PRINTERS' HANDS

Only Work of Revision Remains to be Done.

SLIGHT CHANGES MAY YET BE MADE

President Likely to Send Document to Congress in Typewritten Form—Important Problems Discussed at Length.

The completion of his message to Congress at so early a date indicates that President Roosevelt has no idea of abandoning his characteristic trait—punctuality. In the completion of this important work he is ahead of most of his distinguished predecessors in point of time. The typewritten manuscript is now in the hands of compositors at the Government Printing Office. Practically all of the proofs have been corrected and the message will be bound and ready for distribution to the press associations some time this week.

Message Yet to Be Revised.

Although generally spoken of as completed, the message is by no means certain to go to the Fifty-seventh Congress exactly in its present form. The President has got to confer with Cabinet members and others as to a number of important subjects which are discussed more or less at length in the document. Therefore the message may be altered materially at the last moment.

A Very Long Document.

The document is one of the longest ever sent from the White House to the National Legislature. Those who have heard all or parts of it read say that it is a model of diction and clearness. The President goes deeply into a thorough discussion of some questions, evidently with the intention of making his ideas and the reasons for these ideas clear to the legislators who will listen to the message on the first Monday in December.

Contains 30,000 Words.

The number of words is close to 30,000. President McKinley's last message contained about 22,000 words.

President Roosevelt dictated the entire message to Secretary Cortelyou and Assistant Secretary Loeb, and their stenographic notes were, in turn, transcribed on the typewriter. The "copy" was then sent to the Government Printing Office. As soon as possible, the proofs were sent to the President for revision.

Read From Proof Sheets.

It was from proofs from the Printing Office that the message was read to the Cabinet by the President last Tuesday. It is possible, although not definitely decided, that the message may be sent to Congress in the typewritten form instead of longhand, as has heretofore been the custom.

NEW ACCUSATIONS AGAINST SHERWELL

VICTIMS SAID TO NUMBER FOUR.

Developments of Past Twenty-four Hours Said to Connect ex-Po. Riceman With Strangulation Cases.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Nov. 25.—Developments during the past twenty-four hours connect Wilbur S. Sherwell, lately a policeman of the Evansville force, with the murder of four women.

Sherwell is now under arrest, charged with strangling Lena Renner, whose body was found by the wayside, over a mile from the city, two weeks ago. The coroner's verdict charges Sherwell also with the murder of Mrs. Georgia Bailey, but formal prosecution has not been begun in this case.

Suspicious Circumstances.

Sherwell, at the time of his arrest, patrolled a beat regularly. On the night when Mrs. Bailey and Lena Renner were strangled he was seen with both women in his surrey, driving from the central part of the city. Though the evidence is all circumstantial, the officers hold that it justifies them in fixing both murders upon him.

Fanny Butler, a mulatto, was strangled last May in an alley on Sherwell's beat, in the old canal neighborhood, and her body was thrown into a stable. No clue developed. Now it transpires through the testimony of a colored woman that Sherwell had been in the murdered woman's company an hour previous to her murder, and then had threatened to kill her.

Sherwell, it is said, was friendly with Mrs. Mary Stork, who was strangled and thrown into a ditch two years ago. He drove a dairy wagon then. He met her frequently, kept company with her, took her to dances and went driving with her frequently.

Method Same in All Cases.

The same method was used in each woman's death. Each went driving with a man, each was strangled, each was thrown into a ditch or some secluded place.

Mrs. Bailey and Lena Renner both went with Sherwell, it appears, and the theory is advanced that he killed one and was then forced to kill the other to cover up the first deed.

The accused man remains indifferent and every effort to draw him out fails. He is regarded as a degenerate. He has lived in Evansville six or seven years and until recently enjoyed a good reputation. He came from Findlay, Ohio, where his family is known as Charville.

\$1.00 to Frederick, Hagerstown, and Winchester and Return.

Via B. & O. Railroad from Washington at 8:00 a. m. Sunday next, December 1, stopping at intermediate stations en route. Returning leave Hagerstown and Winchester at 6 p. m. and Frederick at 7 p. m. same day.

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KILLED WITHOUT PROVOCATION.

Army Lieutenants in Trouble for Shooting Filipinos.

Some developments of rather a startling nature have recently been made in cases of at least two of the newly appointed lieutenants in the army. The Judge Advocate General's Office of the War Department, in reviewing the proceedings of the court-martial which tried First Lieut. Preston Brown, of the Second Infantry, who was convicted of shooting a native Filipino, and sentenced to dismissal from the army, has ascertained that two of the recently appointed lieutenants, while serving as volunteer officers, shot and killed, without any more reason, Filipinos who wouldn't obey their orders.

According to authorities at the War Department, neither of these officers has yet been subjected to charges. The friends of Lieut. Preston Brown have become cognizant of the fact, however, and are making a strenuous claim that he is no more guilty of wrongdoing than the two former volunteer officers who have received commissions in the regular establishment.

The War Department has only lately received from ex-Senator Lipsday, of Kentucky, a long letter in Brown's behalf. It is urged that the officer's previous record, which is admitted to be excellent, be taken into consideration.

Lieutenant Brown was appointed from Lexington, Ky., and his family is one of prominence in the State. It is believed that unless Brown's case is dropped by the War Department the Senate will refuse to confirm the nominations of the two volunteer officers who are alleged to have committed similar offenses.

COL. A. D. ANDERSON DIES IN THE RIVER.

Washed Ashore at Mount Vernon. Rock-Filled Pockets Give Evidence That He Committed Suicide.

Col. Alexander D. Anderson carried out his determination to end his life. As he had stated he intended to do, he sought and found relief from pain in the waters of the Potomac. His body was discovered shortly after 11 o'clock this morning floating in the river about a quarter of a mile below Mount Vernon.

In the pockets of his clothing were found a number of stones, evidently placed there to weigh the body down and make drowning certain.

Three fishermen were out in their skiff this morning and saw the body of a man floating in the water. They rowed up to it and, attaching a rope, towed it to the shore. Then they notified Captain Dodge, the superintendent of the Mount Vernon grounds, and T. S. Wright, magistrate of Mount Vernon township, acting as coroner, viewed the remains. He decided that there was no doubt that the man had committed suicide. There were no marks of violence.

Captain Boardman, Chief of Detectives, who has been searching for Colonel Anderson since Sunday morning, was notified and dispatched the police boat down the river to bring back the remains. It will return about 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Identification of the body as that of Colonel Anderson was made complete by the discovery of a purse in one of his pockets containing a card bearing his name. Nothing else save a lead pencil and the stones were found upon his person.

About 11 o'clock yesterday Colonel Anderson entered the Mount Vernon grounds by crawling through the fence near the electric railroad terminus. He approached Christian Stout, an employee, and asked to be directed to the river. The workman showed him the way, and a short time afterward Colonel Anderson appeared at the back gate of the grounds and asked a similar question of Thomas Quander, another employee. Quander directed him to the ferry landing, a short distance below Mount Vernon. His appearance did not denote anything unusual or any mental derangement. Nothing was thought of the occurrence until the body was brought out of the water. The workmen then recognized it as that of the man who had made enquiry of them the day before.

For more than a year Colonel Anderson had been a sufferer from a severe case of stomach trouble. Upon several occasions he remarked that if he did not soon obtain relief he would "end it all." Prior to his illness he practiced law in this city, having offices at 1429 New York Avenue northwest. At one time he held many positions of trust under the Government, and in 1892 was among those who planned the World's Fair at Chicago.

Saturday night Colonel Anderson slept but little, if at all. It was known that he was suffering from temporary mental derangement, brought on by severe pain. About 5 o'clock yesterday morning he left his residence, leaving a note to the effect that he had determined to seek "much-needed rest and relief from pain in the waters of the Potomac." The general tenor of the note led his family to suppose that he had committed suicide. At noon yesterday the police were notified of his disappearance.

MR. CORTELYOU RETURNS.

Back at White House After Hurred Mission to Canton.

Secretary Cortelyou returned from Canton today. He went there on Friday to attend to some business matters connected with the estate of the late President McKinley, of which he is an administrator. Incidentally he investigated certain points respecting plans for the National McKinley Memorial Monument at Canton.

Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co. Delightful trips daily at 6:30 p. m. from foot 7th st. to Old Point Comfort, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and Newport News. See ad page 7.

Improved Service West, B. & O. R. R. Under recent change of schedule, train leaving Washington 6:30 p. m. (daily) arrives in Chicago in time to connect with "crack" trains of Western roads, including "Overland Limited" and "California Limited," giving quick service to all Pacific Coast and intermediate points.

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